GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2187
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2016
Sickle Cell Anaemia
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bulk of tribal population in the country especially in the southern States and Gujarat are the most afflicted by the heredity disease Sickle Cell Anaemia, if so, the details thereof along with number of cases/deaths reported during the last three years;

(b) whether the medical practitioners in tribal areas of the country are unaware of the existence of the disease resulting in misdiagnosis and mistreatment of the disease;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to create awareness about the disease among the medical practitioners and the people in the tribal areas; and

(d) whether the Government has launched a Sickle Cell Anaemia Control Programme, if so, the details along with the funds allocated/released/utilised and the achievements made so far in combating the disease thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): No database is maintained at the national level by this Ministry so far as the number of cases and deaths due to Sickle Cell Anaemia is concerned. However as per the information received from the state of Gujarat the morbidity and mortality numbers are as follows-

Year	Cases	Deaths
2013-14	5701	66
2014-15	4509	58
2015-16	2214	70

There is high prevalence of Sickle Cell Anaemia in the tribal areas of Gujarat, and Southern India.

(b): No.

(c): As per information provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the Sickle Cell screening programme is being run in as many as 27 states on the behest of that ministry. List is enclosed at Annexure "A"

In order to create awareness amongst the population certain activities are undertaken at the state level, like Screening, Prenatal and Post natal Counselling, Diagnosis and Treatment of cases.
States have informed that IEC activities are carried out by Government to create awareness about the disease among the medical practitioners and the people in the tribal areas. Apart from this, Ministry of Tribal Affairs organizes regional training workshops in collaboration with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to facilitate State/UTs to train adequate manpower to undertake the screening exercise. In addition, Department of Biotechnology is involved in research to find cure of the disease.

(d): There is no separate vertical programme for Sickle Cell Anaemia control. Public health is a state subject; however, under the National Health Mission, the Government supplements the efforts of State governments in providing health care services, including for prevention and control of Sickle cell disease.
Considering the burden of disease, a Guideline for prevention and control of Haemoglobinopathies (including Sickle Cell Anaemia) have been developed under National Health Mission and disseminated to the States for implementation. The Guideline envisages antenatal check up of pregnant women and utilisation of RBSK (Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram) program for screening of the prospective mothers and the children respectively.

The funds allocated so far from the NHM Government of India is annexed at (Annexure 'B'). The fund allocated from Ministry of Tribal Affairs is annexed at (Annexure 'C')